DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM ON ANDHRA PRADESH, SEA COAST

3097. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be .pleased to state :

(a), whether there is any proposal to develop Tourism along the sea coast of Andhra Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

~THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No specific proposal has been received by the Department of Tourism from the State Government for the development of Tourism along the sea coast of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

PROPOSAL TO CONTROL PRICE OF AIR TRAVEL

3098. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any efforts to find ways and means to reduce the cost of travelling or Indian Airlines.

(b) if .so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any suggestions hae been obtained from the travelling public in this regard ;

(d) what steps Indian Airlines propose to control the price of air travel ; and

(e) whether large salary bill and perquisites are the main reasons for high cos' of travel by Indian Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Domestic air fares in India are already low in comparison to those of other countries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Indian Airlines has taken steps tc control cost of operations and other un-productive expenditure so that increase in the price of air trael could be checked. Indian Airlines also provides concession in fare under schemes such as Point-to-Point fares, Fly More Fly Free, Group Discounts, Domestic package tours.

(e) The' main reasons are the high cost if fuel and high aircraft related payments, which are to be made in foreign currency.

EVELOPMENT OF TOURIST PLACES IN EASTERN GHATS

3099. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to stats :

(a) whether Government have encoura-:ed different States to Identify and develop potenial tourist place in the Eastern Ghats ;

(b) whether it is a fact that ARAKU Valley in Andhra Pradesh has excellent prospects for tourism ; and

(c) whether Government will give any tssistance to Andhra Pradesh Government :o develop ARAKU Valley as a place of tourist attraction ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM HABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not submitted any proposal 'or development of tourism in Araku Velley of the State.

IDENTIFICATION OF MODEL AIRPORTS

3100. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : WIll the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION \ND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Airports Autho rity has identified model airports befittuis he international standards to attract in'er-lational tourists ;

(b) if so, the details of the model air-ioits identified for the said purpose ;

(c) whether the funds are inadequate for he expansion of airports; and

(d) if so, how much allocations have been made for the Eighth Five Year Plan period for the expansion of the airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The airports it Nagpur, Indore, Vadodara, Bhubanes>vai Patna, Lucknow, Jaipur, Hyderabad. Coim-batore, Calicut, Guwahati and Imphal are